University Technology Transfer

Neil Gerl

University of Michigan

Tech transfer is Important

America's universities provide more than a world-class education system; they create the fundamental knowledge essential to our economic growth, health and prosperity.

- Advances in science and technology on our nation's campuses spawn new businesses, create jobs, open new markets and lead to products and services that save and improve the lives of all Americans.

- The Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) conducts a yearly licensing survey to gather technology licensing data from academic institutions in the United States and Canada. It reports that tech transfer adds $30 billion to the economy and supports 250,000 jobs a year. More than 1,000 products currently on the market are based on university licensed discoveries.

Ideas to Enhance Tech Transfer

- Increase Education on use of “ Other Transactions” and TIA’s
- Investigate the advantages of inclusion of Un-patented Software in Bayh-Dole
- Improve the approval process for obtaining waivers for U.S. Manufacturing
- Attempt to avoid precluding foreign students on projects

- No more than “Limited Government Rights” should be required
- Avoid clauses which involve the Export Laws and International Traffic in Arms
- Fund projects for the entire effort when the project starts to avoid delays in subcontracting
- Provide contractors with lists of required clauses. Include for universities and industry

- Expand the use of Basic Ordering Agreements for Tech Transfer. Fund Universities for the start-up cost
- When industry is the prime contractor require that the Bayh-Dole Act applies to universities